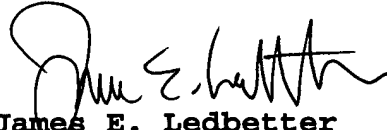


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels original claims 1-12 in favor of new claims 13-18.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: May 31, 2006

JEL/ejw

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.06107

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
Suite 850
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200